

CLAIMS

What we claim is:

1. A capsule for oral delivery of a composition comprising 60 % to 95 % by
5 weight of gum arabic and to the remainder a water-soluble polymer, a hydrocolloid and a plasticizer.
2. The capsule according to claim 1, which comprises 70 % to 90% by weight of gum arabic.
3. The capsule according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the water-soluble polymer
10 is cellulose ether.
4. The capsule according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the water-soluble polymer is an alkyl- and/or hydroxyalkyl -substituted cellulose ether.
5. The capsule according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the water-soluble polymer is a hydroxypropylmethylcellulose or carboxymethylcellulose or alginates.
- 15 6. The capsule according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the hydrocolloid is a carrageenan or agar gum or galactomannan or a mixture thereof.
7. The capsule according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the hydrocolloid is a kappa-carrageenan.
8. The capsule according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the plasticizer is
20 1, 2-propylene glycol or glycerol or glycerol triacetate or glucose or sorbitol or sucrose or fructose or maltose or cellobiose or lactose or $\text{CaCl}_2 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ or triethyl citrate or tributyl citrate or dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate or polyethylene glycol or carbamide or a mixture thereof.
9. The capsule according to any preceding claim, containing medicinal or pharmaceutical agents as fill material.
- 25 10. A film-forming composition for oral delivery capsules comprising in an aqueous solution 60 % to 95 % by all film-forming components dry weight of gum arabic and to the remainder a water-soluble polymer, a hydrocolloid and a plasticizer.
11. The composition according to claim 10, which comprises 70 to 90% by all film-forming components dry weight of gum arabic.
- 30 12. The composition according to claim 10 or claim 11, wherein the water-soluble polymer is cellulose ether.
13. The composition according to claim 10 or claim 11, wherein the water-soluble polymer is an alkyl- and/or hydroxyalkyl-substituted cellulose ether.

14. The composition according to claim 10 or claim 11, wherein the water-soluble polymer is a hydroxypropylmethylcellulose or carboxymethylcellulose or alginates.

15. The composition according to claim 10 or claim 11, wherein the hydrocolloid is a carrageenan or agar gum or galactomannan or a mixture thereof.

5 16. The composition according to claim 10 or claim 11, wherein the hydrocolloid is a kappa-carrageenan.

17. The composition according to claim 10 or claim 11, wherein the plasticizer is 1, 2 – propylene glycol or glycerol or glycerol triacetate or glucose or sorbitol or sucrose or fructose or maltose or cellobiose or lactose or $\text{CaCl}_2 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ or triethyl citrate or tributyl citrate
10 or dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate or polyethylene glycol or carbamide or a mixture thereof.